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metroLIFE

POWER OF SPORT

SHINY NEW OBJECT AT HUMAN RIGHTS MUSEUM

JOHN WOODS/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Olympian Mark Tewksbury presents his gold medal to Gail Stephens, CEO of the CMHR. Tewksbury's medal, earned in 1992 for the 100m backstroke, will be part of an exhibit that explores the power of sport to inspire change. Story, metroSPORTS.

Combo IDs considered

PROVINCE

Health cards and driver's licences could be combined

The province is now considering combining people's health cards, with their driver's licences and other photo ID cards.

"There are a number of benefits to using identification cards and driver's licences to access health-care services," said Health Minister Sharon Blady in a press release.

"In addition to reducing the number of cards Manitobans have to carry, we would be better protected against identity theft because driver's licences and ID cards are securely issued and tamper proof."

The province announced Thursday they are exploring the idea, and Blady said another advantage would be that all health-card holders would have photo ID.

"The Winnipeg Poverty Reduction Council supports a vision where people of all ages, ethnicities, income, health and education are respected and have opportunities to achieve their potential," said Cynthia Foreman, co-chair of the Winnipeg Poverty Reduction Council.

"Simplifying access to health-care services and providing our most vulnerable citizens with access to photo identification that can be used to access other important programs and services would be a positive step towards achieving this outcome."

If the concept is approved, a new registry of identity would be created, and Blady said no personal health or drug records would be shared with Manitoba Public Insurance (MPI).

"This is an opportunity for government to eliminate duplication of services and costs with no impact on MPI ratepayers," said Gord Mackintosh, minister responsible for MPI. DAVE BAXTER/METRO

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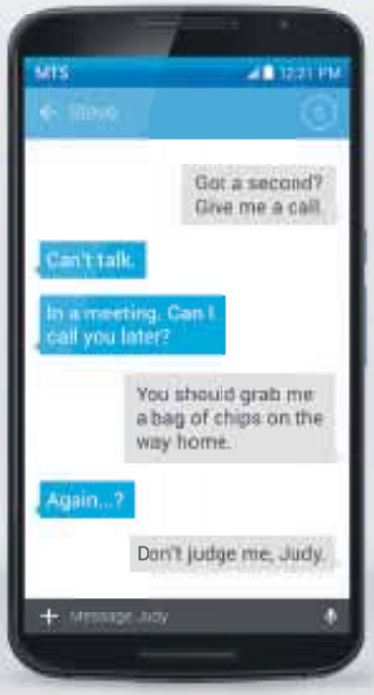
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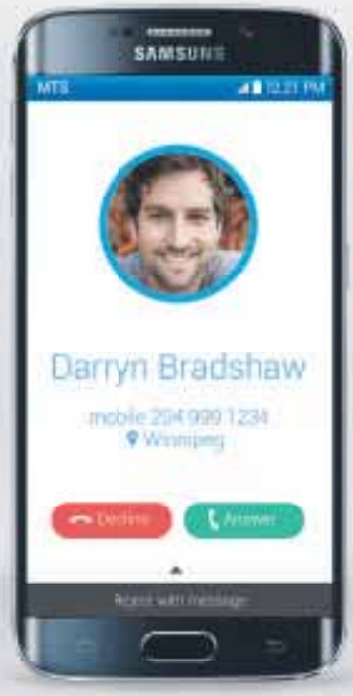

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metro NEWS

Your essential daily news

Stranded orca rescued in northern B.C. **Canada**

TODAY'S FRINGE FESTIVAL PICKS

Metro Winnipeg and CBC Manitoba present a selection of reviews

Hiroshi Shimizu speaks the language of comedian

One has to hand it to Hiroshi Shimizu: He's got Godzilla-sized cojones.

Shimizu left a healthy, if unsatisfying, career playing chairs in Japanese avant garde theatre to pursue a career as an English speaking stand-up comedian, even though he didn't speak a lick of English. The fact that he's in Winnipeg doing a show this year proves he's had some success in his audacious ambition. The show itself proves he deserves every bit of it.

His comedy isn't subtle — there's nothing subtle about Shimizu. But it is funny. And once he's explained why differences between Japanese and North American language and culture have made his chosen pursuit particularly difficult, you'll appreciate even more his ability to make you laugh not just at him, but with him.

KELLY STIFORA

Magical Mystery Detour

It is such an utter pleasure to see a performer of such virtuosity in the creation of characters.

Gemma Wilcox's Magical Mystery Detour follows Sandra and her dog, Sola, on a trip to keep a date she made with her mother to see the transit of Venus at Land's End.

As we go along we find the date has been scheduled prior to the deaths of both her mother and the relationship with her longtime partner, Charlie.

On the journey, Wilcox delivers poignancy, hilarity, a time-and-space defying housefly, a Peter Cook-channeling perverted tree, a comfortingly crotchety Scottish automobile, dog sex, and no fewer than three Queen Elizabeths. The posthumous letter her mother has sent via Sandra's aunt leads to a stirring and satisfying conclusion.

This is sharply-written material, but the performance jacks everything up several levels higher. Wilcox has been named "Best of Fest" multiple times at many different festivals. **JOHN SADOWAY**

Shylock

Actor John D. Huston has performed Mark Leiren-Young's one man show more than 50 times, and it shows.

Huston completely melds into the role of Jon Davies. He's a Jewish actor who's just given his last performance as Shylock in a production of Merchant of Venice — cancelled because of controversy over the role. So he offers one last post-show talkback to us, the audience.

Rarely will you find a single show at the Fringe that offers as much as this one does. It's a drama that asks tough questions about censorship, racism, art and equality, but will also make you laugh. It teaches about Shakespeare but doesn't require foreknowledge for enjoyment.

KELLY STIFORA

FIND MORE REVIEWS AT CBC.CA/MANITOBA/FEATURES/FRINGE

Jacob Trudel, right, does his best superhero pose for Marvel character The Black Widow, centre, and his brother Joshua, left. DAVE BAXTER/METRO

Superhero dreams come true for boy

DREAM FACTORY

Five-year-old gets his chance to do battle

Dave Baxter
Metro | Winnipeg

Marvel and The Dream Factory helped make a young boy's dream come true on Thursday.

The Dream Factory is an organization that makes dreams come true for kids battling life-threatening illnesses. Thursday night, five-year-old Jacob Trudel got to meet superheroes, and get on stage with them during the Marvel Universe LIVE! event at MTS Centre.

Jacob was diagnosed with stage-three advanced Neuroblastoma in October, and is currently going through treatment.

His mom Jennifer said he relates his battle with his illness with the battles of his favourite superheroes.

"He's sees them as capturing bad guys and saving everyone, and I think he can relate that to his own journey," said Jennifer.

"What he has going on in his body is the bad guy, and his strong spirit and positive perspective is the superhero."

Jacob may be going through what would seem unimaginable for most five-year-old kids, but his mom says his spirit stays strong.

"He has such a positive perspective on everything, and it gives us strength every day."

Before the show on Thursday Jacob and his family got a chance to meet Marvel character The Black Widow at the MTS Centre, and Jacob got in a little rehearsal before his big moment on stage.

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Police seek person of interest in purse theft

INVESTIGATION

Surveillance footage shows woman leaving with two bags

Shane Gibson
Metro | Winnipeg

Police are asking for the public's help identifying a woman who's being called a person of interest after a woman's purse was stolen at a Notre Dame Avenue grocery store last month.

The victim told police she had left her purse at the Topher's No Frills store at 600 Notre Dame Ave. just after 6 p.m. on June 15, and when she went back to retrieve it, it had been stolen.

> **Investigators are looking to identify her.**
> Const. Eric Hofley

Police say the purse was filled with a "substantial amount" of travellers cheques along with passports and other important documentation.

The woman pictured in a photo from surveillance footage released by police Thursday can be seen leaving the store with two purses in her hand, but Winnipeg police spokesman Const. Eric Hofley stopped short of calling her a suspect in the case.

"Whether … someone else had already rifled through it and she picked it up, we don't know," he said. "But certainly investigators (are) looking to identify her and speak with her."

Hofley said the victim is a Winnipeg resident and wasn't visiting the city on vacation.

"It was unfortunate timing to have this occur," he said.

Anyone with information is asked to call police at 204-986-6668 or Winnipeg CrimeStoppers at 204-786-TIPS.

Police want to identify this woman, who is considered a person of interest after a purse containing travellers cheques and passports was stolen from a grocery store June 15. WPS/HO

COUNCIL

Bedbugs breach city hall's security

Dave Baxter
Metro | Winnipeg

There's a new nuisance crawling around at Winnipeg City Hall.

On Thursday, the city confirmed there is a case of bedbugs in the council building in downtown Winnipeg.

The problem is isolated to the front security desk and the lounge area in the second tier, said the city in an email.

Bedbugs will stay within the area they are found unless the clothing or furniture they are on is moved, and the city said a licensed exterminator has treated the affected areas.

They believe that due to the quick response, the problem should be contained to the two areas.

The exterminator will now continue to monitor the council building on a regular basis.

IN BRIEF

Medical condition forces Sinéad O'Connor off the Interstellar Rodeo bill

Interstellar Rodeo has lost its Friday night headliner in Winnipeg.

Sinéad O'Connor, who had been scheduled to close down the three-day festival's opening night, has pulled out for medical reasons.

"She is suffering from exhaustion due to an existing, not-resolved medical situation and she has been advised by the doctor to stop any activity and rest," reads a statement from the singer's agent. "Because of this she is completely unable to travel."

Interstellar Rodeo confirmed the cancellation on their website Wednesday and said they're "putting out offers now for a fantastic artist to headline our Friday night show and we have some exciting leads."

Interstellar Rodeo runs Aug. 14-16 at The Forks. METRO

RELIGION

Our Lady of Fatima pilgrim statue makes Winnipeg stop

A famous Catholic statue is making a stop in Winnipeg.

The statue of Our Lady of Fatima will arrive at the Our Lady of the Rosary Roman Catholic Church at 478 McKenzie St. Friday, where it will remain until Sunday.

"Catholics in Winnipeg will have a wonderful opportunity to come and show their devotion to Mary and to learn more about the importance of the message of Our Lady of Fatima in these troubled times in the Church and in the world," said Father Dominique Boulet, prior of Our Lady of the Rosary, in a release.

"There will be Confessions, traditional Latin Mass with hymns and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Benediction. Devotions to Our Lady will include the recitation of the Rosary, as well as enrolment in the Miraculous Medal and the Brown Scapular and a Spiritual Conference."

The statue is hand carved and painted based on apparitions of the Virgin Mary reported to have been experienced by three shepherd children in Fatima, Portugal in 1917.

The reported apparitions at Fatima have been officially declared worthy of belief by the Catholic Church.

The Pilgrim statue's visit to Winnipeg is part of a scheduled two-year journey of stops at churches, chapels, schools, and religious houses across Canada and the U.S.

Go to sspx.ca for more details. METRO

The statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be on display at the Lady of the Rosary Roman Catholic Church at 478 McKenzie St. Friday until Sunday. HANDOUT

Percy the blind dog is expected to make a full recovery after surgery to remove his left eye Thursday. FACEBOOK

Dog surgery successful

PERCY

Loses his left eye, but otherwise full recovery likely

Elisha Dacey
Metro | Winnipeg

A dog rescued by a local group after he was blinded by hair dye has undergone surgery.

Percy was surrendered to Manitoba Underdogs Rescue on Feb. 9 in extreme pain, said the group's executive director, Jessica Hansen.

His owner's child had blinded him and the family could not care for him.

Despite attempts to save his sight, Percy's left eye needed to be removed.

"Percy's condition has progressed quicker than we ever thought possible," said Hansen.

"He was originally scheduled for surgery in May but it had to be rescheduled due to some issues he was having adjusting to his new challenges."

The medications that were prescribed to keep Percy's condition at bay didn't work as well as expected and he was experiencing discomfort, she added.

"Upon consultation with his veterinarian, we've now decided that removing his eye is the best course of action. It's an awful decision to have to make, but we truly do think it's in Percy's best interest at this point.

"The eye is non-visual and its removal will hopefully end the constant poking and prodding that the little guy has been subject to since February."

> **Percy's condition has progressed quicker than we ever thought possible.**
> Jessica Hansen

Despite the removal of his left eye, he has received some good news — his right eye will stay intact.

"Despite being originally diagnosed with Corneal Endothelial Dystrophy in both eyes, Percy's veterinarians believe that his right eye may have been misdiagnosed," said Hansen.

Medication has helped him regain sight in that eye.

Percy will remain in long-term foster care until he's 100 per cent healthy.

INCREDIBLE JOURNEY

Lost dog found 400 kilometres away

A little dog who somehow escaped from his home in Roblin, Man., would probably have some amazing stories to tell if he could talk.

The 10-year-old Jack Russell Terrier named Duke was found nearly 400 kilometres away in downtown Winnipeg.

When he vanished on June 20, his owner, Taylor Funk, called local veterinarians, placed ads in the local newspaper and searched the area. She started to think she would never find him again when she got a call last weekend from a Facebook group called Winnipeg Lost Dog Alert.

A woman living in downtown Winnipeg found Duke wandering around in her neighbourhood two weeks ago. Melissa Chung says she took him in, cleaned him up and even figured out his name.

"The day we got him, we started calling out common dog names and he seemed to like Duke so we've been calling him Duke ever since," says Chung, who posted his picture online.

> **I'm telling everyone he's in downtown Winnipeg. They can't believe it.**
> Taylor Funk, owner

On Wednesday, Funk drove more than four hours to pick up her dog.

"I don't know where he was. I don't know what he was doing," says Funk. "I'm telling everyone he's in downtown Winnipeg. They can't believe it."

She's grateful that Chung took Duke in and cared for him so well. Chung said she was sad to see Duke go, but that he inspired her to adopt a dog of her own..

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Liberals remain resistant to coalition with NDP

POLITICS

Trudeau rejects concept despite New Democrat interest

New Democrats say they would two-step with the federal Liberals if it meant ousting Prime Minister Stephen Harper's Conservatives, but their prospective dance partner isn't hearing the music.

NDP Leader Tom Mulcair said Thursday that his party has always seen the defeat of the Conservatives as a priority.

"We know that they've done a lot of harm, and we want to start repairing the damage that (Harper's) done," Mulcair said from Amherstburg, Ont., where he stopped as part of an eight-day tour.

"We've always worked with others in the past, but every time I've raised this prospect with Justin Trudeau, he's slammed the door on it."

The Liberal leader did that again on Thursday when asked in Winnipeg about the possibility of a formal coalition with the New Democrats.

"Although of course we are open to working with all parties in the House to pass good legislation and to ensure that Canadians' interests are served, there will be no formal coalition with the NDP," Trudeau said.

"There are fundamental differences of opinion on very important elements of policy — whether it be Canadian unity or the Canadian economy and the need for growth — that we disagree with the NDP on."

Nathan Cullen, NDP MP for Skeena-Bulkley Valley in British Columbia, raised the issue again in an interview Wednesday. He said winning a majority in a federal election expected this fall remains his party's goal, but ultimately the No. 1 priority is toppling the Tories.

"The Liberal voters that I know are as fed up with Stephen Harper as anybody," Cullen said.

The last time the idea of a coalition government was seriously floated was in 2008, when the NDP, Liberals and Bloc Québécois came together to try to force the government out of office.

Their efforts were thwarted when the Governor General, at the prime minister's request, prorogued Parliament, effectively putting it on pause until the new year, by which time there had been a change in Liberal leadership.

The new leader, Michael Ignatieff, ultimately backed out by grudgingly supporting the Conservative budget. That saved Harper from losing a confidence vote and having to call an election.

That deal only would have been possible by including the separatist Bloc Québécois. That was unpalatable to the Liberals.

"The NDP said we were willing to make (Liberal) Stéphane Dion the prime minister. We thought it was important to replace Mr. Harper's Conservatives," Mulcair said.

"The Liberals signed a deal. They walked away from it. And, seven years later, we've still got Stephen Harper's Conservatives."

A few years ago, when Liberal fortunes were plummeting, it was Mulcair who categorically ruled out a coalition. He has since suggested those comments were intended to indicate only that he wouldn't agree to any electoral co-operation with the Liberals during a campaign.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Federal Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau speaks in Winnipeg while Dan Vidal, Liberal candidate for St. Boniface-St. Vital, looks on.
SHANE GIBSON/METRO

> **Justin Trudeau will do himself a great deal of damage with progressive voters if he wants to contemplate more years of this Harper government.**
> NDP MP Nathan Cullen

LIBERALS

Trudeau backs Winnipeg medical marijuana shop

Federal Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau is speaking out in support of a controversial medical marijuana store in Winnipeg.

During a stop in the city, Trudeau said marijuana storefronts like Your Medical Cannabis Headquarters, owned by Glenn Price, should be allowed to operate.

At a Liberal campaign office just blocks away from the shop, Trudeau reiterated his pledge to legalize marijuana if elected.

He said by licensing and restricting the sale, it keeps the drugs out of the hands of kids and criminals.

Police closed down Price's store last week, saying he is not a licensed producer so it's illegal for him to sell medical marijuana.

Supporters of Price held a rally this week outside of police headquarters, and Price has since reopened the store in defiance of the police order.

Price has said he provides the product only to people with appropriate medical documentation and he's helped hundreds of people since opening on July 1.

CTV WINNIPEG, THE CANADIAN PRESS

CRIME

Accused letter bomber faces new charges

A Winnipeg man charged earlier this month after a letter bomb severely injured a lawyer is now accused of trying to kill a total of three people with explosive devices.

Lawyer Maria Mitousis lost a hand and suffered other serious injuries in the July 3 blast.

In the days following, police found other explosive devices at two other law firms that were disposed of without incident.

Guido Amsel was arrested and charged with two counts of attempted murder and explosives-related offences.

Police said Thursday that following additional investigation, including a search of his house, Amsel has been charged with a third count of attempted murder, along with unlawful possession of explosives.

"You know it is easy to say it is obvious, but there is a ton of investigation that goes on in the background before charges are laid," Const. Eric Hofley said of the delay in laying the new charges.

"Investigators want to make sure everything is done correctly."

Police allege that Amsel, 49, was targeting his ex-wife and the lawyers who were involved in a lengthy legal dispute between them.

Mitousis underwent 12 hours of surgery for injuries to her upper body and thighs.

Another bomb was sent to an auto repair shop where Amsel's ex-wife works. A third went to a law firm Amsel had hired in a legal battle with his wife over money from a business the couple owned.

Martin Glazer, Amsel's lawyer, said his client will plead not guilty to all charges.

"There is no confession and in fact Mr. Amsel denies the accusations made against him," Glazer said in a statement.

"Based on the information received so far, the police have no direct evidence against him. The case appears to be built on assumptions and circumstantial evidence that has an innocent explanation."

Court documents show Amsel and his ex-wife Iris went through a bitter divorce, along with a lawsuit over money from the company they used to jointly run.

The records also show Amsel appeared to drop the legal battle earlier this year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Beached whale freed

NORTHERN B.C.

Stranded orca saved after six hours of being stuck on rock

Thandi Fletcher
Metro | Vancouver

A transient killer whale has been rescued after she beached herself on some rocks in Hartley Bay on B.C.'s northern coast Wednesday morning.

The emotional story of the stranded orca's rescue was posted on Facebook on Wednesday, where it has since been making waves on social media.

"She cried often, which tore at our hearts, but as the tide came up there were many cheers as this whale was finally free after (six-plus) hours of being stuck on this rock," reads the Facebook post from the group Whale Point.

"It was a team effort, and fortunately on some level this transient orca understood that we were trying to help."

A volunteer works to keep an orca alive after she became stranded on some rocks in Hartley Bay on B.C.'s northern coast Wednesday. COURTESY CETACEAN LAB

Hermann Meuter, director of whale research group Cetacean Lab, said volunteers spent seven hours trying to keep the distressed marine mammal, a female calf, alive until the tide came back up.

He said the group placed blankets on top of the whale and poured seawater over her.

Eventually, the tide rose again and the whale was able to leave the rocks.

> **She was very calm... It was awesome to watch.**
> Hermann Meuter

"It was incredible to see how careful and how calm she was to get herself to negotiate herself out of the situation," he said.

"She was very calm, very patient. It was awesome to watch."

Around 4:15 p.m., as the tide rose, she slowly moved forward and gave "one kick with her tail and she was free," he said.

"She took one big dive, and then she was gone," said Meuter. "She was free."

CRIME

Man robbing house points gun at girl, 7

Matt Kieltyka
Metro | Vancouver

A distraught seven-year-old girl had a gun pointed at her before handing over a jar of coins to intruders during a recent home invasion in Vancouver.

Vancouver police say the girl and her family won't soon get over the trauma of the violent armed robbery on June 17, in which two men forced their way into a home in the 3300 block of Dieppe Street in east Vancouver, stole a number of valuables and sent a man to hospital with head injuries.

"You can only imagine what kind of impact this will have on this young girl," said Vancouver police spokesperson Sgt. Randy Fincham.

"It's not something this family will ever forget."

Fincham said the two suspects wearing reflective construction vests forced their way into the home through the front door. Several adults were home at the time.

As the home invasion was happening, the young girl entered the same room as the suspects.

"One of the two robbers turned his attention to the young girl and demanded money from the young girl," said Fincham. "The only money she knew of was in the jar. She gave it to them hoping these guys would take the jar and go."

But the robbery continued until the men had stolen several items, including a rare Rolex Yachtmaster II watch, and physically assaulted one of the adult males.

One suspect was armed with a handgun, but no shots were fired during the incident.

Fincham said there is nothing in the family's background to "cause concern" or help investigators understand why this family was targeted.

The first suspect is a white man between the ages of 25 and 45. He has a slim build, shaved head and full sleeve tattoos on both arms.

The second suspect is a dark-skinned man, believed to be in his 20s, with a medium build and a thin beard. He was wearing a Puma baseball cap.

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A Calgary developer aims to make healthy living easier with a portable Bluetooth scale called the Slate Scale that you can carry with you to check your food. COURTESY RANA VARMA

Dining out? Take along your scale

HEALTH

Bluetooth device delivers nutrition info using phone

When trying to live healthy, it's easy to count the pull-ups, push-ups and sit-ups, but sometimes we forget to count the calories.

One Calgary developer is aiming to make healthy eating easier with a portable Bluetooth nutrition scale called Slate Scale. It connects to an iOS or Android app on your phone to deliver calorie and nutrition information based on your serving size and meal selected. It also picks up on your eating habits.

"For breakfast, most people typically eat the same thing," said Rana Varma, co-founder of Slate Scale. "It will recognize that and instead of keying it in every time, it would just prompt you with your common breakfast items."

> **It would ... prompt you with your common breakfast items.**
> Rana Varma

The scale is small enough to fit in a purse or jacket. You can place food directly on the stainless steel surface, or put it on a plate and the scale will adjust accordingly.

The app offers recipe suggestions and shares data with popular fitness apps, like Fitbit and MyFitnessPal.

Currently, Slate Scale exists only as a working prototype with the developers, but Varma hopes to begin a Kickstarter crowdfunding campaign in August.

For more information, visit www.slatescale.com.

AARON CHATHA/METRO

IN BRIEF

Three people missing in Drummondville fire

Authorities say three people are missing after a fire in an apartment building in Drummondville in central Quebec.

Provincial police say it is too early to say whether anybody is dead.

They gave the update at a news conference in Drummondville Thursday.

The cause of the fire is not yet known but it is believed to have started on the second floor of the three-storey building.

About 50 firefighters from the town and surrounding communities had the blaze under control a few hours after it began in the wee hours.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

RIGHTS

UN review raises concerns on Canada

The United Nations' first review in 10 years of Canada's compliance with an international rights treaty has resulted in concerns being raised on a swath of issues from pay equity to new anti-terror legislation.

In a report released Thursday, the United Nations Human Rights Committee said positive steps have been taken since the last time Canada's adherence to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights was reviewed.

But the report detailed more than a dozen areas where it finds Canada's approach lacking.

Among the committee's worries is that sweeping powers contained in the new anti-terror bill may not contain enough legal safeguards to protect people's rights.

In particular, the report raised doubts about elements of the legislation, known as C-51, that expand the mandate of the Canadian Security Intelligence Service, the new information sharing regime between security agencies and the changes to the no-fly program.

The government should consider rewriting the law to ensure it complies, impose better safeguards so information-sharing doesn't lead to human rights abuses and put in place oversight mechanisms for intelligence agencies, the report says.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

WINNIPEG

Bombs sent to law firms

A Winnipeg man charged earlier this month after a letter bomb severely injured a lawyer is now accused of trying to kill a total of three people with explosive devices.

Lawyer Maria Mitousis lost a hand and suffered other serious injuries in the July 3 blast.

In the days following, police found other explosive devices at two other law firms that were disposed of without incident.

Guido Amsel was arrested and charged with two counts of attempted murder and explosives-related offences.

Police said Thursday that following additional investigation, including a search of his house, Amsel has been charged with a third count of attempted murder, along with unlawful possession of explosives.

"You know it is easy to say it is obvious, but there is a ton of investigation that goes on in the background before charges are laid," Const. Eric Hofley said of the delay in laying the new charges.

"Investigators want to make sure everything is done correctly."

Police allege that Amsel, 49, was targeting his ex-wife and the lawyers who were involved in a lengthy legal dispute between them.

Mitousis underwent 12 hours of surgery for injuries to her upper body and thighs.

Another bomb was sent to an auto repair shop where Amsel's ex-wife works. A third went to a law firm Amsel had hired in a legal battle with his wife over money from a business the couple owned.

Martin Glazer, Amsel's lawyer, said his client will plead not guilty to all charges.

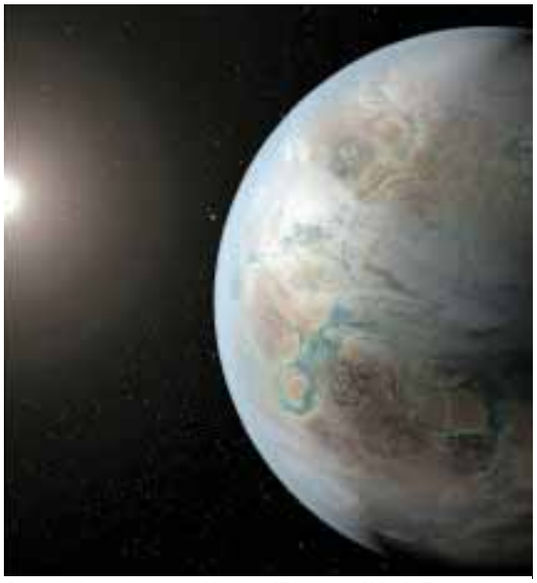
"There is no confession and in fact Mr. Amsel denies the accusations made against him," Glazer said in a statement.

"Based on the information received so far, the police have no direct evidence against him. The case appears to be built on assumptions and circumstantial evidence that has an innocent explanation."

Court documents show Amsel and his ex-wife Iris went through a bitter divorce, along with a lawsuit over money from the company they used to jointly run.

The records also show Amsel appeared to drop the legal battle earlier this year. He withdrew accusations that his ex-wife had stolen money from the company and agreed, after years of denial, that he owed her $40,000.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



An artist's rendering of Kepler-452b from NASA, Thursday.
NASA/AMES/JPL-CALTECH/T. PYLE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Cousin' to Earth found

SPACE

Planet orbits habitable zone of its sun-like star, says NASA

Scientists have identified a "close cousin" to Earth that's orbiting a sun-like star and might harbour life.

"It is the closest thing that we have to another place that somebody else might call home," said Jon Jenkins from NASA's Ames Research Center in California.

The researchers announced their discovery Thursday, based on observations from NASA's Kepler space telescope.

This older, bigger cousin to Earth is called Kepler-452b. What makes this planet remarkable is that it orbits its star at about the same distance that Earth orbits the sun. What's more, its home star looks to be similar to our sun. Based on what scientists know today, Jenkins noted it's the nearest thing to another Earth-sun twin system.

"Today the Earth is a little less lonely because there's a new kid on the block," Jenkins said during a news conference. He led the team that discovered Kepler-452b.

The last Kepler discovery that had scientists gushing was just over a year ago. That close-to-Earth-size planet, Kepler-186f, also was in the habitable zone of its star. But that faint dwarf star was unlike our sun.

John Grunsfeld, NASA's science mission chief, emphasized that the exoplanet system identified Thursday — "a pretty good close cousin to the Earth and our sun" — is the closest so far. "And I really emphasize the 'so far.'"

The planet-hunting Kepler will keep churning out new discoveries, Grunsfeld noted, and possibly find even better matches for "Earth 2.0."

Kepler was launched in 2009 and has nearly 5,000 potential exoplanets to its credit — worlds beyond our solar system. It is helping to address such fundamental questions as where do we come from and where are we headed, and arguably the biggest question of all: Are we alone in the universe?

While scientists are uncertain whether Planet 452b is rocky like Earth, they believe there's a better than even chance it is.

As for the age and size, it is about 6 billion years old, 1.5 billion years older than Earth, and 60 per cent larger in diameter than our home planet. Its star, Kepler 452, is also older and bigger, as well as brighter than our sun. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

> **Today the Earth is a little less lonely because there's a new kid on the block.**
> Jon Jenkins, NASA scientist

UNITED STATES

Texas jail death not homicide: Officials

The autopsy of a woman who was found dead in a Texas jail revealed no injuries that would suggest she died in a violent homicide, authorities said Thursday.

Waller County prosecutor Warren Diepraam discussed details of the autopsy of 28-year-old Sandra Bland, who authorities say was found hanging in her jail cell on July 13.

The autopsy showed that Bland had no defensive injuries on her hands that would typically indicate a struggle, the prosecutor said. Some lacerations or abrasions were found on her wrists. Those injuries were consistent with a struggle while being handcuffed.

The marks around Bland's neck were consistent with a suicide, he said.

Bland was arrested three days before she was found dead. Her family and friends dispute the official finding. Texas Rangers and the FBI are investigating.

Bland's death comes after nearly a year of heightened national scrutiny of police dealings with black suspects, especially those who have been killed by officers or die in police custody. It has resonated on social media, with posts questioning the official account and featuring the hashtags #JusticeForSandy and #WhatHappenedToSandyBland.

The sheriff said Wednesday that no one gained access to the cell and contributed to Bland's death.

Bland's family has said she was not despondent and was looking forward to starting a new job at her alma mater, Prairie View A&M University.

However, Bland posted a video to her Facebook page in March, saying she was suffering from "a little bit of depression as well as PTSD," or post-traumatic stress disorder. At least one friend has said she was just venting after a bad day.

A video of her arrest taken from the officer's dashcam shows state trooper Brian Encinia drawing a stun gun and threatening Bland when she refuses to follow his orders.

The roadside encounter swiftly escalated into a shouting confrontation, with the officer holding the weapon and warning Bland, "I will light you up," for not getting out of her vehicle.

The video shows the trooper stopping Bland for failing to signal a lane change. The conversation turns hostile when the officer asks Bland to put out her cigarette and she asks why she can't smoke in her own car. The trooper then orders Bland to get out of the vehicle. She refuses, and he tells her she is under arrest.

Further refusals to get out led the trooper to threaten to drag her out.

He then pulls out a stun gun and makes the threat about lighting Bland up.

When she finally steps out of the vehicle, the trooper orders her to the side of the road. There, the confrontation continues off-camera, but it is still audible.

Bland can be heard protesting her arrest, repeatedly using expletives and insulting the officer. She screams that he's about to break her wrists and complains that he knocked her head into the ground.

Houston television station KTRK-TV released a voicemail that Bland left a friend, LaVaughn Mosley, while in jail in which she expressed disbelief at her circumstances.

In the message, Bland calmly said she's "still just at a loss for words honestly at this whole process." She wondered, "How did switching lanes with no signal turn into all of this?"

The Department of Public Safety trooper, who has been on the force for just over a year, has been placed on administrative leave for violating unspecified police procedures and the department's courtesy policy. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A photo of Sandra Bland. PAT SULLIVAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Syrian groups OK plan

MIDDLE EAST

Opposition parties agree on 'roadmap' to end civil war

Syria's two main political opposition groups agreed on Thursday on a unified "road map" for a political solution to the country's long-running civil war, representatives of the groups said.

The two parties have been trying for years to reach a common understanding on how to end the war in Syria. Their agreement came as the UN envoy, Staffan de Mistura, was in Damascus to press efforts to find a political solution to the country's war.

But violence continued on the ground and suspected Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) militants fired at a Turkish military outpost from inside Syrian territory on Thursday, killing a Turkish soldier and wounding two others. Turkish troops retaliated to the attack and at least one ISIL militant was killed, according to Turkish official Suleyman Tapsiz, the governor for the Kilis province.

The attack follows a suicide bombing in a Turkish town near the Syrian border on Monday which killed 32 people. Authorities have blamed the attack on militants linked to ISIL.

A Syrian refugee woman works outside her tent at an informal settlement near the Syrian border on the outskirts of Mafraq, Jordan, Thursday. MUHAMMED MUHEISEN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

> **We are breaking the parable of lack of unity.**
> NCB executive committee member Khalaf Dawohd

Meanwhile in Brussels, where the Syrian opposition groups have been meeting, representatives of the Syrian National Coalition (SNC) and the National Coordination Body for the Forces of Democratic Change (NCB) said they would announce details of their agreement at a news conference the following day.

Members of the SNC, the main political group in exile, have long accused the Damascus-based NCB, whose leaders have been tolerated by the Syrian government, of being too lenient and even complicit with President Bashar al-Assad's government. Members of the NCB, in turn, have often accused the SNC of being bankrolled by oil-rich Arab Gulf countries.

Their disagreements have contributed to the notorious divisions within the Syrian opposition.

"Today we are breaking the parable of lack of unity within the opposition," Khalaf Dawohd, a member of the NCB's executive committee, told The Associated Press from Brussels.

Hadi al-Bahra, a senior member of the SNC, said the agreement bolsters the unity and position of the opposition.

"It is a message to the international community to exert pressure and discuss seriously how to bring this (Syrian) regime to the table for a political transition," he said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SCIENCE

People can taste fat: Study

Move over sweet and salty: Researchers say we have a distinct and basic taste for fat, too.

But it's nowhere near as delicious as it sounds.

They propose expanding our taste palate to include fat along with sweet, salty, bitter, sour and relative newcomer umami.

A research team at Purdue University tested look-alike mixtures with different tastes. More than half of the 28 special tasters could distinguish fatty acids from the other tastes, according to a study published in the journal Chemical Senses.

Past research showed fat had a distinct feel in the mouth, but scientists removed texture and smell clues and people could still tell the difference. "The fatty acid part of taste is very unpleasant," said study author Richard Mattes, a Purdue nutrition science professor. "I haven't met anybody who likes it alone. You usually get a gag reflex."

Stinky cheese has high levels of the fat taste and so does food that goes rancid, Mattes said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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CANADA'S ECONOMIC ACTION PLAN

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Canada

Loblaw shutting 52 stores

RETAIL

Pharmacies, grocery outlets included in closures

Loblaw Companies Ltd. plans to shut down 52 unprofitable stores in its chain of retail outlets by early next year as it seeks to boost operating profit.

The company said in its second-quarter earnings report Thursday that the closures will take place over the next 12 months and save $35 million to $40 million in annual operating income despite the loss of $300 million in sales.

Loblaw president and executive chairman Galen Weston Jr. said in a conference call with analysts that the company was focused on finding efficiencies as growth slows.

In a normal year, he added, the company would close 10 to 15 stores.

"Yes, it's an increase, but it's not radically different," he said. "It doesn't signal any kind of change from a strategic perspective."

The closures are distributed across the country, he said, and affect around one per cent of the company's total retail square footage.

In its latest annual report, the company had more than 2,300 locations for its many brands, including Loblaws, Shoppers Drug Mart, No Frills and Joe Fresh.

Weston would not identify which locations are due to close as the company has yet to notify affected employees, but he said the list included gas stations, Joe Fresh locations and select pharmacies and grocery stores.

Loblaw chief financial officer Richard Dufresne said the company did a review of all of its stores following the completion of its buyout of Shoppers Drug Mart last year and identified 52 that were consistently underperforming and unprofitable.

The company said in March it would build 50 new stores and renovate or improve more than 100 existing ones this year as part of a $1.2 billion expansion. Weston said those plans are still on track.

On Thursday, Weston said the 52 closures included the previously announced cutbacks at Joe Fresh's U.S. operations, but would not make a "material change" to the clothing line's Canadian locations.

The company announced the closures as it reported a second-quarter profit of $185 million or 45 cents per share in its latest quarter compared with a loss of $456 million or $1.13 per share a year ago.

Canada's retail market has become increasingly competitive as companies such as Loblaw and Walmart have sought to diversify their sales and make their stores into one-stop shops for all of the daily necessities.

Loblaw isn't the first to consolidate its operations. In June, Sobeys and Safeway owner Empire Co. Ltd. said it was cutting 1,300 jobs, following a June 2014 decision to close 50 stores.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Loblaw Companies Ltd. has not yet identified which stores in its chain of retail outlets will close by next year. THE CANADIAN PRESS

$300 million

Closures will mean a loss of $300 million in sales but could save up to $40 million in operating income.

IN BRIEF

Walmart takes over Chinese online retailer

Walmart wants to make a bigger play for Chinese consumers online. The world's largest retailer purchased the remaining stake it didn't own in China's Yihaodian, an online retailer. Walmart is attempting to follow consumers as they migrate to the Internet in China, a country where the retailer has struggled to adjust to buying habits and local competition. Yihaodian, founded in 2008, sells more than eight million products. Walmart, which opened its first store in China nearly 20 years ago, has struggled with slow and uneven growth but it's making the market a top priority. After rapid expansion a few years ago, it is closing some stores and focusing on making its fleet of about 400 stores more profitable. Walmart aims to accelerate its online business as well as link its online services to its stores. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

market minute

DOLLAR 76.69¢ (-0.01¢)

TSX 14,265.37 (-41.75)

OIL $48.45 US (-74¢)

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WEEKEND, July 24-26, 2015

THE KOHLER REPORT: ON CELLPHONES AND AWKWARDNESS

I will continue using a landline until it's so old it becomes as cool as a mason jar is today.

I am routinely mocked for the fact that I still have a landline.

When I call people from the number, they love to joke, "Who is this, my grandma?" But while I admit that keeping a home phone is costly — and looks as outdated in my living room as a bowl of potpourri — it's well worth it. It's the only phone in my life I can count on. Not like that flaky, inconsistent, deadbeat-dad version of a phone I call my "cell."

I don't know if the technology has declined or if my patience has waned, but I often find that the experience of talking on a cellphone is as much an existential crisis as it is a conversation.

Like those calls where you can hear the person about half the time, as if someone were pointing a remote control at them and pressing "mute" every few seconds. The first couple of times it happens, you might say "What was that?" but after a while you start feeling like the annoying one, even though it's them you can't hear. You try your best to piece the sentences together using only the words you have ("I've been…and…depressed …I'm…so… eating … know it … helps?") And you're like, "Yeah, I find eating ice cream therapeutic, too," and just hope that what you're saying makes sense.

Or what about those calls that make your friend sound like they're in an echo chamber, when you happen to know she's just a few blocks away at a Starbucks? Or those times you're trying to talk to a business associate who sounds like they're conducting their side of the meeting under water; it's really stressful when your livelihood depends on someone whose every word seems to be caught inside a bubble.

Or what about that quirk of technology that makes it so the person who's talking can't hear you until they stop. This makes it impossible to interject. They can't hear you if you laugh or say things like, "Right, right" or "Mm-hmm." Cellphones strip you of half the tools you need to have a normal, healthy conversation.

By the way, I don't have some 1999 Nokia piece of poo, nor do I use that service provider that's available only at 7-11. I have an iPhone 6 and my service provider rhymes with Smell Us. Is this the best we can do?

And I know what you're going to say: If you don't like talking on your cell, then just do like the Millennials and text. But I don't want to text — it takes too long and it's impersonal and it's destroying us like the impact that destroyed the dinosaurs.

No. What I will do is continue using my landline until Bell decides to stop providing me with — and charging me through the nose for — the service. I will continue using a landline until it's so old it becomes as cool as a mason jar is today.

Mock me all you want. At least I'll be able to hear you.

Rebecca Kohler is a standup comic, writer, actor, gymnast, lawyer and chemist. (Some of this isn't true.) Follow her on Twitter @becca_kohler.

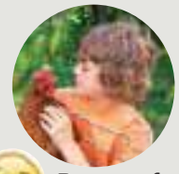
Were the Pan Am Games worth it? Visit metronews.ca to answer our poll.

Happy face/Sad face

From **chicken sickness** to **landsliding lakes,**
Metro weighs in on the news making headlines this week

Forgetting past failures

News of the first drug that slows down Alzheimer's has scientists forgetting how hopeless they felt about managing memory loss. Stage-3 clinical trials — the last step before the pill goes to market — of a drug called solanezumab showed the progress of dementia slowing by a third, if treatment started early. More trials will be needed to confirm the results, but science is close to creating a memory medication that does more than just reduce symptoms. SOURCE: BBC

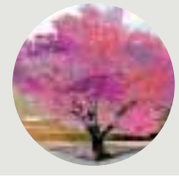


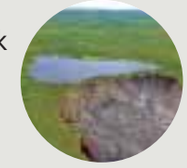
Beware of fowl play

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control has ID'd an unusual culprit in a 40-state salmonella outbreak: Backyard chickens. Urban farmers, the CDC says, "are bringing live poultry into their homes, and ... kissing or cuddling with live poultry." Chickens harbour salmonella bacteria that's harmless to them but causes a nasty stomach bug in humans. Handwashing — and minimizing contact with feathered friends — can reduce the spread.
SOURCE: WASHINGTON POST

The fastest fruit salad

Sam Van Aken, a professor at Syracuse University, uses crafty grafting to create trees that bear 40 different kinds of stone fruit, including heirloom varieties of plums and apricots. Despite his choice of materials, he's not a botanist, but an artist. A tree he planted in 2011 now has all 40 varieties grafted on. In four years or so, it will be blooming periodically throughout the summer, producing a different kind of fruit each time.
SOURCE: NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC





Lake braces for spectacular slide

Some time in the next few months, a small lake perched 600 feet above the Mackenzie Valley in the Northwest Territories will burst through the slice of earth holding it back — and fall. It will be a spectacular sight that transforms the landscape, and melting permafrost caused by climate change is to blame, scientists say. The unnamed lake near Fort McPherson is buttressed by frozen ground that has not thawed to this extent since the end of the last ice age.
SOURCE: THE CANADIAN PRESS

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

How two stubborn people shape up at marriage boot camp

Welcome to the midway point of the speediest season of the year.

Or for me, the end of marriage boot camp.

C. — my American boyfriend — was visiting for a few months. As our time wound down, and people asked him how it's been, "marriage boot camp" was his answer.

We had a lot to pack into very little time and space, playing house in my one-room studio apartment. We'd been telling each other over Skype that we wanted to be together. This summer, we actually had to be together, morning and night, and all weekend long.

As two previously very single people, it was a negotiation to even cross the street. One person would step out into traffic, while the other tugged them back.

As two stubborn people, we could suck the fun out of a sunny afternoon on a patio as we learned to debate, kindly.

We discovered what it's like to be around the moody love of your life, what to say, and when to shut up.

For brief moments, the tension felt like that big wooden wall on an obstacle course: impossible to overcome.

My way of working through things is to talk, talk, talk. C.'s musings are more likely to drop in unexpectedly from thin air, like a falling feather.

But we did talk about what marriage would look like — or more often, not look like.

"Our kids are going to run around barefoot," C. warned me one day.

"I don't want to fight over money," I declared. Our statements acted like warning shots across each others' bows. Beware! This is what it's going to be like forever!

Marriage boot camp did clarify things. Chief among them, how sure we both are. How happy we both are. Except for when it wasn't, the summer was the most fun.

I've been wondering how much people do this — talk about what marriage will be like — before they pull the trigger.

So I called my most communicative, inquisitive of friends. She and her husband spent four evenings, a few hours each time, talking about what marriage would be like, in order to write their vows.

"People get so busy with planning their wedding, it's like they spend more time thinking about seating arrangements than the details of what they're vowing to," she said.

C. and I aren't at risk of that. For a long-distance relationship on fast-forward, it's perhaps not surprising we attended marriage boot camp before engagement. And as with all good boot camps, I'm feeling stronger.

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Your essential daily news

Jurassic World now the third highest-grossing film in history

Last chance for redemption

COMEDY

Can Pixels save Sandler's career after a string of flops?

IN FOCUS

Richard Crouse

Matthew Lintz, left, as Matt, and Adam Sandler as Sam Brenner with Q*bert, in Pixels, which opens nationwide today. SONY PICTURES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

From a career point of view, Pixels may be the most important movie of Adam Sandler's career. The big-budget action comedy sees the comedian help save the world from aliens who attack using classic video arcade games like PAC-MAN, Donkey Kong and Centipede as models for their assaults.

In real life, it's not Donkey Kong Sandler needs to battle, but audience apathy. A string of box office flops, controversies and terrible reviews — critic Liam Maguren was so horrified by Sandler's 2011 "comedy" Jack and Jill he wrote, "Burn this. This cannot be seen. By anyone" — have threatened to torpedo his career.

Even his own studio seemed to have turned against him. In last year's Sony email hack, one employee complained, "we continue to be saddled with the mundane, formulaic Adam Sandler films."

Movies like Billy Madison, Happy Gilmour and Big Daddy were hits that established his persona as the angry but sweet everyman, a misfit character he trotted out for two decades. Occasionally he'd get serious in pictures like Punch-Drunk Love or Reign Over Me and soak up some good reviews, but by and large, the Sandleronian oeuvre has been ripe with anger management issues and jokes of ... how to put this delicately: a gastrointestinal nature. Not highbrow, but that's OK — not everything has to be Noel Coward — as long as audiences care.

But at some point, it seemed they stopped caring.

Perhaps it was the inconsistent nature of his movies. Just when you think he's turned a corner with the excellent Reign Over Me into interesting adult roles he slaps you in the face with the zero-star rated follow-up I Now Pronounce You Chuck and Larry.

Or maybe it's quality control issues. Last year Kevin Nealon told me about being offered a role in the Sandler-produced Grandma's Boy.

"It was so lowball and crass," said Nealon. "I thought it might be a little embarrassing to be in that one. So I told Sandler I'd probably pass on it and he called me and said, 'I really hope you do this because if you don't do it and it's a big hit I'll feel bad, but if you do it and it's not a big hit, no one is going to see it anyway.'"

That attitude may be realistic but it doesn't exactly speak to high standards. More than that, however, is the static nature of Sandler's comedy. His everyman character hasn't changed much throughout the years. Usually these days he lives in nicer houses or has more money but it's the same old shtick.

The old saying, "He got bigger, but didn't grow up," perfectly applies to Sandler.

He may have matured (chronologically at least) but the urination gags and rageaholic jokes that characterize his comedy haven't.

We don't need to feel sorry for Adam Sandler. He has movies in the pipeline and a new deal with Netflix, but Pixels is still an important moment for him. Rolling Stone called his last film, The Cobbler, "beyond awful and beyond repair," and it went on to become his biggest flop to date.

If Pixels is a hit, and it may be, the trailer generated 34.3 million views worldwide in its first 24 hours online, he will be redeemed — at least until his next movie's new round of toilet humour and cleavage shots.

MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

Paper Towns ★★★
Irrational Man ★
American Heist ★★

HOW RATING WORKS	
★★★★	SEE IT
★★★	WORTHWHILE
★★	UP TO YOU
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THE TV DINNER JESSICA ALLEN

Journalist A.J. Liebling's best prose was about boxing, a subject so brutal that it's perplexing how he wrote so prolifically on it

I watched the trailer for Southpaw, which hits theatres July 24, the day it was released because I've never met a boxing movie I didn't like. And because the trailer reveals the tragedy that afflicts boxing champion Billy "The Great" Hope (Jake Gyllenhaal), I feel I can reveal the spoiler too: his wife (Rachel McAdams) dies and Billy loses his title, his family, his wealth — everything.

You know what that means: Billy must clobber his way back to the top. That includes a prerequisite training montage. They're my favourite, especially the sequences from the first four Rocky films (I haven't seen V through XXXV.) The first three, which I studied via VHS tapes as a kid, use the same theme song. But Rocky IV's montage is set to a different tune. While Balboa's Russian opponent Drago runs on a futuristic treadmill flashing with lights and lasers, Rocky climbs a snow-covered mountain — a mountain! — then shouts "Drago!" from the top. If that's not good movie making, I don't know what is.

My colleague and friend Lainey likes Rocky IV best. On a recent afternoon in her office, she recited from memory Rocky's soliloquy after he defeats Drago on his Siberian home turf: "If I can change, and you can change, everybody can change!" she yelled triumphantly. "Basically, Rocky conquers communism. He ends the Cold War," Lainey said. "It's a perfect movie!"

Lainey writes about gossip and no doubt she'd notice her name drop. But I'm not interested in connecting myself to celebrity (actually, Rachel McAdams went to my high school, but whatever): I'm interested in the food Lainey eats. Because although gossip is central to the human experience, food informs it.

THE MOVIE: Southpaw

THE MEAL: 'Beef and tomato'

We've been sharing lunch duties since January. The first time I tried her "beef and tomato" — marinated flank steak sliced impossibly thin, stewed tomatoes, bok choy and King mushrooms served over rice — it was like a punch to my solar plexus: it took my breathe away.

It's a dish she grew up eating. Nothing fancy, she told me. Maybe every family has one — a dish that you've had a thousand times but never tire of. A dish filled with meaning and memory.

Journalist A.J. Liebling wrote beautifully about food and memory. But his best prose was about boxing, a subject so brutal that it's perplexing how he wrote so prolifically on it — and how it's so profoundly about the human experience.

"To write about boxing is to write about oneself," Joyce Carol Oates, whose father took her to see matches as a child, said, "however elliptically, and unintentionally."

It's no wonder I love both Liebling and Carol Oates' writing because the writing you love, whether it's about food or sports, is often about love itself. And no wonder that the food that's dearest to you is the sort you want to share with the people you love most.

Lainey has promised that one day she'll teach me how to make her "beef and tomato." Part of me never wants to learn. That way she'll have to keep making it for me, forever.

Jessica Allen is the digital correspondent on CTV's The Social.

MOVIE NEWS

Amy Poehler to play NBA basketball coach

Actress and comedian Amy Poehler is set to produce and star in an upcoming comedy in which she'll take the role of a basketball coach with a chance for glory.

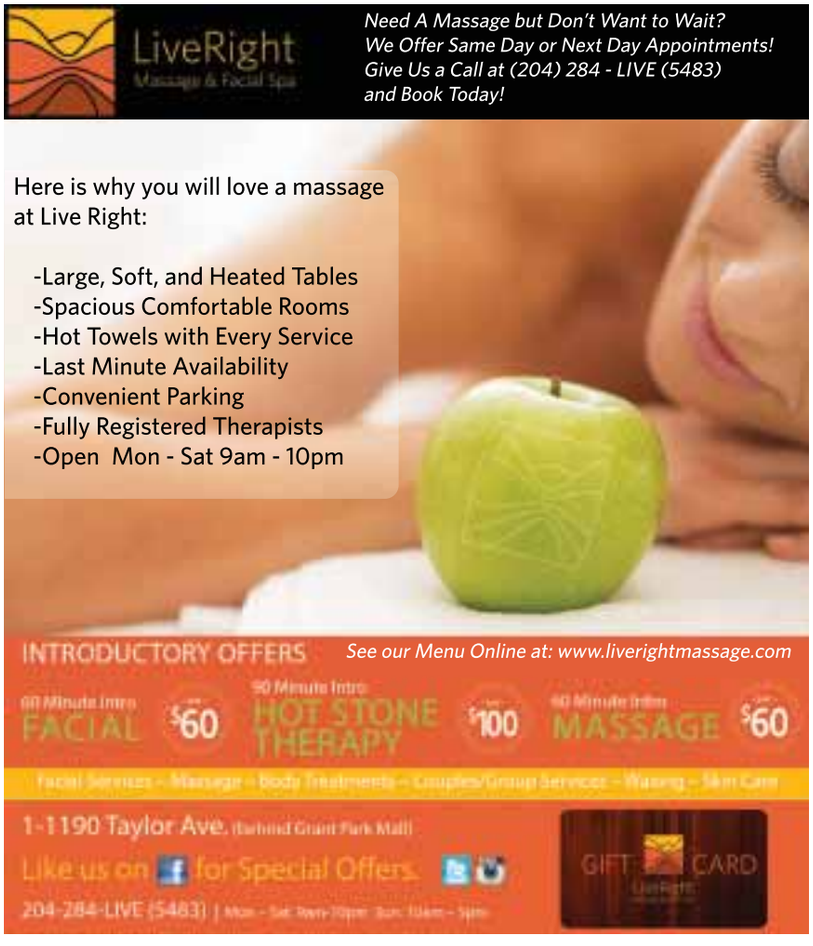
Currently lending her voice to Pixar's Inside Out in the role of Joy, Poehler wrapped up a seven-season run as the star of Parks and Recreation earlier this year.

Her new project will see the actress play a basketball coach whose career has fizzled out when she is called on to lead an NBA team, according to Variety.

Ike Barinholtz (The Mindy Project) will appear in the film and is also co-writing the script with David Stassen.

Poehler is next set to star in Sisters with Barinholtz and Tina Fey. AFP

Amy Poehler AFP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INTERVIEW

50 Cent on acting, Southpaw

Matt Prigge
For Metro

The day before our phone interview with 50 Cent is the day he publicly declares bankruptcy. It doesn't take long to get an email asking that we abstain from mentioning his business affairs, as well as a couple other heavy topics. Despite this, 50 Cent is in good spirits, friendly and talkative when discussing Southpaw, the boxing drama starring Jake Gyllenhaal as Billy Hope, an anguished pugilist angling for a comeback after the death of his wife (Rachel McAdams).

The rapper and businessman plays Jordan Mains, his manager-promoter, and it's a subject he knows a lot about, having been involved in boxing for even longer than he's been appearing in movies.

Given your knowledge of boxing, how realistic did you find its portrayal of this world?

There were a lot of parallels to real boxing. It felt like a real situation. It wasn't pretending to be someone who wasn't a real person. There's a point where I'm saying, "On his way out make sure he doesn't break some s—." That's an afterthought, but it defines how he handles circumstances with his fighters. The model they live by is: if it makes money, it makes sense. That's Jordan Mains and Billy Hope's world view. They've been on this journey together. He didn't earn anything if Billy didn't earn anything.

Jordan starts off as someone who really seems to have Billy's back but eventually reveals he values business over their friendship. Do you feel he adopts a defendable position?

Well, he loves Billy initially. But what happens with fighters is when you use logic with people aren't using that as a compass, you can become frustrated. You'll start to resent them at certain points. The fighters are throwing jazz hooks and uppercuts for something that will net $250 million for 36 minutes of action. It's tough to tell them what their fight is worth. They expect so much for fighting the top guys in their weight class. Eventually they just want all the money. When they become a name you don't argue with them, because they don't need anybody else to make the next fight. If a manager says, "F— this, I'm leaving," then there will be a whole new group of people who will come to him and say, "Alright, champ, let's make the next fight."

50 Cent. GETTY IMAGES

Do you see many parallels between boxing and the music industry? Both revolve heavily around stars who heavily rely on family and friends to support them.

Yeah. They come from the same places. The fighters, they're coming from low-income situations in inner cities. They can relate to not having very much. When you make it, and you get to the leagues, if you're a baseball or basketball player, or you get to the championship, if you're a fighter, you say, "When I do get there I'm going to be straight. I'm going to look out for my people." Their happiness is connected to those closest to them. If you've made it to the point where you can spend a little cash, you do things for them.

Now playing

ANIMATION, COMEDY

Pixels

Director: Chris Columbus,
Starring: Adam Sandler, Peter Dinklage, Kevin James, Josh Gad

As kids in the 1980s, Sam Brenner, Will Cooper, Ludlow Lamonsoff, and Eddie "The Fire Blaster" Plant saved the world thousands of times — at 25 cents a game in the video arcades. Now, they're going to have to do it for real.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE
Critics: 10% Audience: 89%

DRAMA

Paper Towns

Director: Jake Schreier
Starring: Cara Delevingne, Nat Wolff

Adapted from the bestselling novel by author John Green (The Fault in Our Stars), Paper Towns is a coming-of-age story centring on Quentin and his enigmatic neighbour Margo, who loved mysteries so much she became one.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE
Critics: 73% Audience: 95%

DRAMA

Southpaw

Director: Antoine Fuqua
Starring: Jake Gyllenhaal, Rachel McAdams

Billy Hope seemingly has it all with an impressive career, a beautiful and loving wife an adorable daughter and a lavish lifestyle. When tragedy strikes and his lifelong manager and friend (Curtis "50 Cent" Jackson) leaves him behind, Hope hits rock bottom and turns to an unlikely saviour at a run-down local gym.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE
Critics: 50% Audience: 78%

COMEDY

What We Did On Our Holiday

Directors: Andy Hamilton, Guy Jenkin
Starring: Rosamund Pike, David Tennant

Doug and Abi are in the midst of a difficult divorce, and have asked the kids to keep it a secret from their extended family.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE
Critics: 74% Audience: 74%

DRAMA

Mr. Holmes

Director: Bill Condon
Starring: Ian McKellen, Laura Linney

Mr. Holmes is a new twist on the world's most famous detective. In 1947, an aging Sherlock Holmes revisits the circumstances of the unsolved case that forced him into retirement, and searches for answers to the mysteries of life and love — before it's too late.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE
Critics: 87% Audience: 76%

DRAMA

Me and Earl and the Dying Girl

Director: Alfonso Gomez-Rejon
Starring: Thomas Mann, Olivia Cooke

This Sundance winner is the story of Greg Gaines, an awkward high school senior whose mom forces him to spend time with a girl in his class who was just diagnosed with cancer.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE
Critics: 80% Audience: 90%

DOCUMENTARY

Survivors break silence

Steve Gow
For Metro

The Look of Silence follows a family of genocide survivors living amidst their son's executioners. HANDOUT

Joshua Oppenheimer's Oscar-nominated first-hand telling of the atrocities of 1960s Indonesian death squads in The Act of Killing has been called one of the best documentaries ever made. Now, the filmmaker is spotlighting the survivors of such gruesome violence in The Look of Silence where he follows one family still living amongst their son's own executioners.

Metro caught up with Oppenheimer to find out what half a century of silence does to a society.

Is it important to acknowledge this isn't a sequel but a companion film to The Act of Killing?
I think the two films form a single work that's greater than the sum of the parts — or at least I hope so ... the films address two fundamentally complementary aspects of — not necessarily what happened in 1965 because these films are not historical documentaries — but of the impunity today.

You've described making a film about survivors of genocide like walking into a minefield of clichés. How so?
I feel that most of the way that survivors are often used and, in a sense, abused by cinema is to reassure viewers that we're good and have little to do with the perpetrators. By holding up saintly survivors in contrast with villainous perpetrators, we are reassured that somehow we have nothing to do with the perpetrators (and) I was very conscious that that does an injustice to the complexity of the survivors' experience.

Can Western audiences relate to such oppressive societies?
I would caution anybody from thinking this is a window to some far-off, non-Western world that you knew little about ahead of time. I think these films have been impactful outside Indonesia (because) they hopefully work as mirrors in which we see ourselves and in which we see impunity in our own societies.

How have these two films affected your approach to future projects .
I can't safely return to Indonesia. I could probably get in again but I don't think I'd get out alive. But the two films really made me the filmmaker I am today. They helped me overcome that most crippling of fears, which is the fear of looking.

She's Cait: Jenner premieres new show

CELEB REALITY TV

Despite reality trappings, new docuseries has higher purpose

It's the next step in the biggest celebrity story of the year.

It's the long-awaited debut of Caitlyn Jenner's docuseries charting her new life as a transgender woman.

Fittingly, I Am Cait (premiering Sunday at 8 p.m. EDT on E!) opens with Jenner, her ample tresses in huge rollers, at home getting hair-and-makeup treatment as she beholds a giant blowup of her bombshell Vanity Fair cover that followed her April interview with Diane Sawyer.

Yes, Jenner's transition from Bruce to Caitlyn has been a highly orchestrated spectacle, with I Am Cait the latest phase of the campaign. And, typical of celeb reality shows, there isn't a scene in this first of eight episodes that doesn't seem stage-managed to push the starry uber-narrative along.

Even so, there is something more substantial going on here. A gratifying measure of authenticity manages to bypass the celebrity trappings.

Jenner's mother and two sisters help. Delivered to Jenner's seaside California compound for their first encounter with her as a woman, they seem refreshingly like regular folks who are genuinely focused on a family member they love and support, never mind all the lights and cameras there to capture every moment.

"It's going to be so difficult for me to think of you as 'she,' and say 'Caitlyn' when I want to speak with you," her mother says. "It's going to take some getting used to, but I want to do what you want."

At the other end of the authenticity scale are stepdaughter Kim Kardashian and her husband, Kanye West. They are seen in a cameo appearance that plays as unintended comic relief, with Kardashian never doffing her floor-length coat (she blames her modesty on her pregnancy, yet it smacks more of, "I don't show my body except for my own projects") and with West explaining that his shoelaces are untied because they're unnecessary since his shoes are really slippers ("the laces are sort of after the fact").

Kardashian takes the time to survey Jenner's closet full of new women's fashions. Then she and West make their hasty exit.

Such interludes undercut the dignity of Jenner's challenges, and make what she is going through arguably less relatable to an audience that needs to relate.

On the other hand, fame claims attention, and the celebrity machine for Caitlyn Jenner, including I Am Cait, has been impossible to miss. With Cait, she will have a weekly pulpit and a guaranteed flock to whom she knows how to deliver her message loud and clear.

"The tremendous amount of support that I've gotten has been overwhelming, but you also have to realize that it's not this way for everybody," she takes pains to point out.

More than once, she cites the lack of support from family, friends and outsiders experienced by far too many in the trans community, as well as the high murder rate and many suicides. Jenner says she relates:

"I've had some very dark moments in my life. I have been in my house with a gun and said, 'Let's just end it right here.'"

"People are dying over this issue," she says. "I feel a tremendous responsibility here, because I have a voice, and there are so many trans people out there who do not have a voice."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Caitlyn Jenner accepts the Arthur Ashe award for courage at the ESPY Awards in Los Angeles. Jenner's docuseries, I Am Cait, premieres Sunday at 8 p.m. EDT on E! AP/HANDOUT

> **"I've had some very dark moments in my life. I have been in my house with a gun and said, 'Let's just end it right here.'**
> Caitlyn Jenner

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4 MOVIE STARS WE'D LIKE TO SEE MAKE A COMEBACK ON TV

The stampede of film stars to TV is no longer just a trend — it's reality. And we've moved on from the Kevin Spaceys to stars in need of a break. For instance, this fall sees Wesley Snipes head to TV for The Player, after a long stretch away from film. We think there are plenty of other film actors ripe for a TV resurgence. Here are our picks and where they'd thrive. LISA WEIDENFELD/METRO IN NEW YORK

1 Jackie Chan: appearing in a family comedy

Though Chan has Rush Hour 3 on the horizon, he seems to be past his action star heyday. That's OK, though — that just means it's time for him to focus on his equally great but less honoured talent as a comic actor.

Chan is great at physical comedy and we can easily picture him as a beleaguered father to hipster kids, getting in generational clashes about how easy they have it.

2 Karen Allen: appearing in a tense legal drama

Allen had a stretch in the '80s where she dominated, but lately (except for that return in the most recent Indiana Jones movie) she's been less active. Which means it's the perfect time for her to play some kind of high-powered attorney.

We're imagining a Good Wife and How to Get Away with Murder hybrid. She's brilliant, but morally compromised (you know, like every other TV lawyer). Bonus points if they can talk Harrison Ford into a cameo.

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

3 Winona Ryder: appearing in a showbiz satire

Ryder was the It Girl of the '90s, but a series of lacklustre roles and that little shoplifting issue, plus the usual "industry doesn't know what to do with women over 35" nonsense have kept her low profile. Why not spoof that?

Sure, half the cast of Friends is doing it (The Comeback and Extras), but we think there's room for a sharp look at the life of a former It Girl, particularly during this golden era for female comics on television. Sure, she's appearing in an upcoming HBO miniseries (Show Me a Hero), but we think she's ready for her own show.

4 Jon Lovitz: appearing in a seedy lawyer comedy

Sure, Lovitz was also a TV star, but who can forget his turn in A League of Their Own?

Wherever he's been, we'd like him back, along with that particular style of scumbag he portrays so well. Casting would be almost too easy. He could play a seedy lawyer à la Better Call Saul, but, you know, more funny, less violent. We're also willing to accept him as a doctor with terrible people skills, in a pinch.

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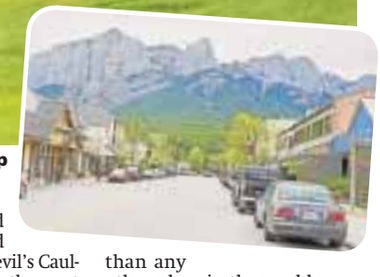
ALBERTA

Nature on full display for golfers in Canmore

Brian Kendall
canadiangolftraveller.com



The ninth hole on Silvertip Golf Course. The course features glacial ponds and forest-lined freeways, as well as cliff-top tee shots. At right, the view from Canmore's Main Street, with the Rocky Mountains in the background. ISTOCK

For years Canmore was one of the best kept secrets in the Rocky Mountains: a town with the same spectacular scenery as nearby Banff, but hipper, friendlier and more affordable.

Located just outside the gates of Banff National Park, 104 kilometres west of Calgary, Canmore is an ideal home base for a mountain golf holiday. But also budget time between rounds for hiking, kayaking, rafting and the other summer activities that annually help draw more than a million overnight visitors to the rapidly growing community of 13,000.

Two of Canada's most dramatically scenic golf courses have been carved through the Bow Valley corridor minutes from Canmore's lively downtown.

At Stewart Creek Golf and Country Club, golfers are treated to a thrill ride of elevation changes on a Gary Browning-designed layout set in the shadow of the Three Sisters, an awe-inspiring three-peak massif.

Silvertip Golf Course, on the opposite side of the corridor, is just as thrilling. Glacial ponds and forest-lined fairways define a design by Canmore-based architect Les Furber that includes several cliff-top tee shots.

And right in town is Canmore Golf and Curling Club. This older, classically designed layout offers many of the same mountain golf experiences found at higher-profile Stewart Creek and Silvertip — mountain vistas, forests of towering fir trees, a meandering glacial river — at about half the cost.

But the biggest draw for golfers is the Banff Springs Golf Course, just inside the park's gates in the alpine town world-renowned for both its beauty and the iconic Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel.

In the valley below the 764-room Castle in the Mountains, legendary Canadian architect Stanley Thompson built the first course anywhere to cost more than $1 million. Opened in 1929, the Banff Springs has long been included in virtually every ranking of the game's leading layouts, and its most celebrated hole, the par-three Devil's Cauldron, numbers among the most photographed in golf.

Visitors often make the mistake of neglecting Canmore in favour of glitzier Banff. But Canmore is equally beguiling in its own unpretentious way. Pubs, coffee shops, boutiques and art galleries line the streets of a town that is said to be home to more Olympic athletes than any other place in the world.

Towering over the community are the magnificent peaks of the Rundle Mountain Range. The fast-rushing Bow River snakes through Canmore's heart, while a network of wildlife corridors and trails spreads out in every direction.

It's a setting perhaps unsurpassed in the West.

> **Budget time between rounds for hiking, kayaking, rafting ...**

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Road blocks and pit stops

REALITY TV

What it's like to be a contestant on The Amazing Race

ON THE MOVE

Loren Christie

Loren Christie and Lyndsay Morrison, in the dark grey shirts, represented for Team Canada AM in the Amazing Race Canada media challenge. MARK O'NEILL

I am a super-fan of the Amazing Race, TV's reality show meets frenetic travelogue. Needless to say, when producers of the Amazing Race Canada asked me to run a leg of the race to celebrate the start of Season 3, I was thrilled.

As one half of Team Canada AM along with on-air weather presenter Lyndsay Morrison, I quickly realized how much harder it is to be a contestant than a critical armchair competitor.

After running almost four hours I can say that what you see on TV, although edited, is real. It's what you don't see that makes you more sympathetic towards racers who seemingly underperform.

An inauspicious start

Each team races with a producer and cameraman in tow, whom you must keep within 20 feet of you at all times. On our 35-degree race day it was a struggle for our crew, lugging 60 pounds of camera equipment, to sprint around Toronto in search of cabs.

Racers are not allowed to carry any handheld devices to aid in directions, so you are reliant on the knowledge of strangers.

The first clue directed us to Stanley Park.

Neither of us had heard of a Stanley Park in Toronto, but thankfully a well-meaning stranger caught up in our excitement had.

Of course we never bothered to verify his directions, which turned out to be wrong.

We ended up being the seventh team out of nine to arrive at the first challenge.

Change of luck

Only one of us could do the Road Block. The only guideline the clue gave was to ask, "Who is more patriotic?"

For no real reason, we chose Lyndsay to represent. The challenge was to sing O Canada in English and French by memory. Bilingual songstress Lyndsay, unlike members of the other teams, hit it out of the park and we were off on our next task. Thank goodness — if it had been me, we would still be there.

Between doing puzzles and knocking solo cups off of sticks with Frisbees, we quickly lost track of where we stood in the race. The fear of being last results in a continuous rush of adrenalin.

Driving to the Hard Rock Cafe in Dundas Square, the Pit Stop for our leg of the race, we saw another team sprinting ahead of us. Lyndsay and I jumped out of our cab, they went right — we went left.

We choose correctly and when host Jon Montgomery announced we were team … number … 2, I felt like I had won the lottery.

TRAVEL NOTES COMFY SEATS, HIGHER VIEWS, ISLAND TREATS

Seat upgrade

Thanks to staggered seating, the new Cozy Suite by Thompson Aero Seating gives everybody in Economy a bit more elbow room, especially if you're saddled with the middle seat. The design offers better aisle access and side headrests for no-nod napping. Airlines can actually fit more passengers in the cabin. Everybody wins.

Bucket list

The one-of-a-kind-experience people at If Only are offering one truly expensive hot-air balloon ride: over Mount Everest for $2.6 million per person with famed pilot Chris Dewhirst. The flight itself takes one day, but the expedition may take several weeks in Nepal, while you train and wait for the weather window. Visit IfOnly.com.

Foodie favourite

The Barbados Food & Wine and Rum Festival is back for its sixth year, running Nov. 19 to 22. Now is the time to plan a weekend in what's known as the culinary capital of the Caribbean — and the birthplace of rum. Bajan and international chefs will ply audiences with delicious demos. Visit FoodWineRum.com.

DOUG WALLACE

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metro SPORTS
Your essential daily news

The Giants' Madison Bumgarner had the top-selling jersey during the first half of 2015

65th gold medal and counting

PAN AM 2015

Water-skiing win helps Canada break previous best

Canada set a new national record for gold medals won at the Pan American Games on Thursday, the 13th day of competition.

Water-skier Whitney McClintock took first place in the women's slalom event — her second top finish of these Games — to give Canada 65 gold medals in total.

The previous record of 64 was set in Winnipeg in 1999.

"This is great, I'm a happy girl," McClintock said. "I've got the two (medals) I came for already. The rest are a bonus."

McClintock, who won gold Wednesday in the overall competition, finished first in the six-skier slalom field to kick off a six-medal Thursday for Canadian water-skiers. Ryan Dodd capped the effort with a gold medal in the men's jump competition on a warm, sunny afternoon on the waterfront.

McClintock, from Cambridge, Ont., later added silver medals in the tricks and jump finals and her brother Jason won silver in the men's slalom.

"Unfortunately I wasn't able to get as warm as I needed to and I just kind of stuck," Jason McClintock said.

In the men's tricks, Jaret Llewellyn of Innisfail, Alta., won silver with 10,550 points. American Adam Pickos won gold with 11,110.

Whitney McClintock won three medals in water-skiing on Thursday, including Canada's 65th gold medal of the Pan Am Games. MARTA IWANEK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Later in the day, Canada earned the gold medal in the team equestrian competition at Caledon Pan Am Equestrian Park, located approximately 65 kilometres north of Toronto.

The Canadians finished the two-round competition with seven faults, one less than Argentina. The U.S. earned the bronze with 12 faults.

The Canadian team consisted of Tiffany Foster of North Vancouver, B.C., 2008 Olympic champion Eric Lamaze of Schomberg, Ont., Yann Candele of Caledon, Ont., and Ian Millar of Perth, Ont., who's making his 10th consecutive Pan Am appearance.

Francois Lavoie of Quebec City and Dan MacLelland of Kitchener, Ont., also won a gold medal in men's doubles bowling with a total of 5,607 pins.

On the track, Damian Warner set a Canadian record in the men's decathlon en route to winning gold.

Michael Smith's 19-year-old record of 8,626 points fell after Warner's 8,659 total.

Warner, a native of London, Ont., capped the victory by crossing the finish line first in the 1,500 metres with a time of 4:24.73.

Canadian sprinting phenom Andre De Grasse advanced to the final of the men's 200-metre race with a third-place finish (21.2) in his semifinal heat.

De Grasse, from Markham, Ont., won gold in the 100 metres on Wednesday night. He holds the Canadian 200-metre record (20.03).

In men's basketball, Canada used a balanced attack to defeat Mexico 96-76 and move within one win of a medal.

Canada (3-0) went into the game having already secured a semifinal berth and knowing it had won Pool B barring a total collapse against the Mexicans (1-2).

Meanwhile, Canada's men's field hockey team earned a spot at the 2016 Olympics with a 5-4 win over Brazil in Thursday's semifinal.

Canada will now play Argentina in Saturday's gold-medal game. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Dan MacLelland averaged a score of 244.2 en route to winning gold in men's doubles bowling with partner Francois Lavoie. RICHARD LAUTENS/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

4

Whitney McClintock won a total of four medals — two gold, two silver

Damian Warner GETTY IMAGES FILE

SEASONED VETERAN

Water-skier Llewellyn still making waves at 45

Jaret Llewellyn will turn 45 next week and he just won two medals in Pan Am Games water-skiing, competing against the best in the world, all of them about half his age or younger.

So what's an elder statesman doing — surviving — in a sport that should be a young person's game?

"I've been lucky," said the native of Innisfail, Alta. "At a young age, when I started, the top athletes didn't take it as serious as they do today, so I grew up like that and that's why I lasted so long ... no one else has lasted as long as I have,"

Llewellyn took silver in the men's tricks competition Thursday, and narrowly missed a bronze after posting the same distance as Chile's Felipe Miranda in men's jumping. On Wednesday, he earned a silver in the men's overall competition.

Llewellyn is a Canadian sports icon, and his impact was felt by competitors.

"He was on the national team before I was born," said Whitney McClintock. "Everyone on our team, everyone competing here for Canada, Jaret's coached them at some point in their lives. He's someone I always look up to."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Jaret Llewellyn THE CANADIAN PRESS

Lou goes Blue and White

Josh Donaldson homered against his former team on Thursday in Oakland. JASON O. WATSON/GETTY IMAGES

MLB

Jays bats keep on bashing

The highest-scoring offence in the majors is heating up at the right time.

Russell Martin homered, doubled and drove in three runs, Josh Donaldson went deep against his former team and the Toronto Blue Jays powered past the Oakland Athletics 5-2 on Thursday.

"Our one through nine is the best in baseball," Donaldson said. "I think we continue to go out there on a night in, night out basis and continue to show that."

The Blue Jays have scored 508 runs, by far the best in the majors. The next closest team, the New York Yankees, has scored 434.

Toronto continued its pop at the plate to give knuckleballer R.A. Dickey (4-10) all the support he needed. Dickey allowed two runs and five hits in 8-1/3 innings in place of ill starter Drew Hutchison, who is scheduled to take the mound in Friday's series opener at Seattle instead. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"It felt like it just hit me at once. It's going to take some time to sink some stuff in.

Scott Kazmir who was traded from Oakland to the Houston Astros before Thursday's game.

GETTY IMAGES

NHL

Leafs hire longtime Devils boss as new GM

Brendan Shanahan's new-school Toronto Maple Leafs front office built on his philosophy of differing viewpoints has a new voice, and this one comes with some 30 years of NHL experience.

Shanahan, who's a year into his duties as team president, believes new general manager Lou Lamoriello "will fit in very, very well and be an incredible boost" to what the Leafs are trying to accomplish. Shanahan went looking for experience to join Kyle Dubas, Mark Hunter and Brandon Pridham in management, and no one has more than Lamoriello.

"If I could map out or draw out a description of the kind of person that we wanted, it would be Lou," Shanahan told a news conference Thursday. "I've always thought that there are certain advantages to hiring people on their way up that are looking to prove themselves and have that sort of hunger and energy to make a name for themselves. But I do think that we were lacking in some experience."

In charge of the New Jersey Devils since 1987, the 72-year-old Lamoriello was the longest-serving GM in NHL history. Along the way, his teams won the Stanley Cup three times, a pedigree he brings to the Leafs, who are trying to build a championship contender.

Lamoriello becomes the old-school GM working under the Hall of Fame player and overseeing assistants Hunter, Dubas and Pridham, also NHL management rookies. He'll also work with coach Mike Babcock, who's signed for eight years and $50 million US and has committed to a long-range plan for success.

"Brendan's hired some very good people kind of a little bit on an entry level, at the levels they are coming into the league," said Pittsburgh Penguins GM Jim Rutherford, who made a similar transition last year leaving the Carolina Hurricanes. "To add an experienced guy like Lou, I think it was very smart on the Leafs' part, and it'll be a good fit."

Brendan Shanahan and Lou Lamoriello speak to reporters in Toronto on Thursday. GALIT RODAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

"I think having Lou in the organization is an opportunity for him to mentor us all.

Brendan Shanahan

Lamoriello's comfortable fit for the past 28 years was gripping the reins of the Devils and asserting just about total control. New Jersey was his team until Ray Shero took over as GM in May, leaving Lamoriello as team president.

1987

Lamoriello has a relationship with the Leafs' president dating to 1987, when he drafted Shanahan.

"I think this benefits everyone," Shero said. "He's a pretty amazing person, and he's in the Hall of Fame for a reason. They're going to find that out."

Although Lamoriello said he was told he'd have autonomy as GM, Shanahan made it clear in conversations "the kind of environment and organization" of collaboration he was building. Lamoriello is OK with Shanahan not wearing a tie to work every day and might have to let Hunter keep his facial hair, and he's fine with sharing decision-making responsibilities.

"No one makes any decision without consulting the people that are around them and their supporting staff," Lamoriello said. "Everybody works together. They don't work for each other. Everybody will be part of every process."

The process of remaking the Leafs is already under way.

Since taking over, Shanahan fired several assistant coaches, executives and scouts, Randy Carlyle and Dave Nonis and presided over the trade of Phil Kessel to the Penguins. Yet there are still plenty of big decisions to make, as Kessel is unlikely to be the only core player sent packing.

Shanahan is still setting the vision, but now it's Lamoriello's job to execute it. THE CANADIAN PRESS

GROOMING KYLE

Signed to a three-year deal, Lamoriello will be almost 76 when it expires. One of his duties will be to mentor the 28-year-old Kyle Dubas, who Lamoriello believes will grow into an NHL GM.

'HUMAN RIGHTS MEDAL'

Tewksbury thanks early-career backers

Swimming legend Mark Tewksbury says it's only fitting that he present his gold medal from the 1992 Olympic Games to the Canadian Museum for Human Rights in Winnipeg.

Tewksbury says he couldn't have won the 100-metre backstroke in Barcelona if he hadn't had the support of people who knew he was gay.

Tewksbury, who came out publicly in 1998, says he felt unsafe doing so before then.

His medal will be part of a new exhibition at the human rights museum that explores the power of sport to inspire positive change.

Mark Tewksbury THE CANADIAN PRESS

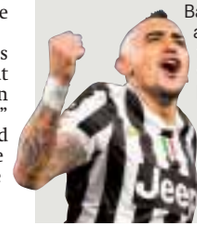
"I've always said for me that medal is a human rights medal," Tewksbury said Thursday. "It was done because someone created a space for me to be me."

THE CANADIAN PRESSWW

IN BRIEF

Bayern close in on Vidal

Bayern Munich says it's close to signing Chile midfielder Arturo Vidal from Italian champion Juventus. Chairman Karl-Heinz Rummenigge said during a trip to China on Thursday that Bayern has agreed terms with both Juventus and Vidal. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



NFL

Brady deal met with silence: Union

The players' union proposed a settlement on Tom Brady's four-game suspension last week that was "met with silence" by the NFL, a person familiar with the proposal told The Associated Press.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity Thursday because the NFL Players Association's offer was confidential. There is no timetable on when commissioner Roger Goodell will rule on the New England quarterback's appeal.

Tom Brady GETTY IMAGES

Media reports indicated the union's proposal called for Brady paying a large fine, but no suspension. The Patriots paid a record $1 million fine and were stripped of two draft picks, including a No. 1 selection.

Brady was suspended for his role in using underinflated balls in the Pats' AFC title win over the Colts. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Golfers feeling lucky to play

CANADIAN OPEN

Mishaps nearly keep Taylor, Grillo out of tournament

Vaughn Taylor felt fortunate to survive a boating accident last year. Emiliano Grillo felt fortunate to get into Canada in time to play the Canadian Open.

On Thursday, they made the most of morning tee times to claim spots at the top of the leaderboard. Grillo shot an 8-under 64 to take the RBC Canadian Open lead, while Taylor shot a 7-under 65 to tie Brian Harman for second after the first round.

Taylor is almost a year removed from his fishing boat capsizing on Lake Thurmond between South Carolina and Georgia. The 49-year-old who birdied eight holes at Glen Abbey Golf Club in the first round gained some perspective on his sport and life from the August 2014 accident.

"It still does," Taylor said. "I kind of remind myself of it to say, 'Hey, let's not take this day for granted and make the most of it.'"

Taylor panicked in the water before swimming to safety.

Grillo didn't panic earlier this week when it looked like he wouldn't be able to cross the border from the United States.

Grillo qualified for the RBC Canadian Open by finishing in the top 10 at the Barbasol Championship in Alabama, which he only did by picking up back-to-back birdies. After driving to Atlanta and flying to Buffalo, the 22-year-old Argentine didn't have time to wait for the necessary work visa to get into Canada.

After he waited, border officials told Grillo just to pay for the visa and go. He followed up that "lucky" break with a bogey-free round to grab the lead.

"I played better on the back nine, which is harder, and the greens were drying out," Grillo said. "I kept hitting some solid shots until the end of the round, and I made some good putts on the back nine."

David Hearn and Adam Svensson tied for the best start by a Canadian player at 3-under 69. While a left thumb injury hampered Graham DeLaet during his even-par round, Hearn and Svensson are very much in contention.

"I played a solid round of golf, and that's what I needed to do," Hearn said. "If I can hit a few more greens tomorrow, I like my chances."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TOUGH DELAET

Graham DeLaet of Weyburn, Sask., injured his left thumb during the first round but still finished his round and expects to keep playing Friday. Frustrated by the injury, DeLaet was glad to shoot even-par 72 Thursday to sit eight strokes off the lead.

Bubba Watson shoots from the 16th-hole fairway at the first round of the Canadian Open on Thursday in Oakville, Ont. The former Masters winner Watson, whose wife is from Pickering, Ont., opened with a 68. PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Vaughn Taylor GETTY IMAGES

Emiliano Grillo GETTY IMAGES

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RECIPE Watermelon Cucumber and Goat Cheese Salad

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Watermelon is at its best this time of year. With a sweet, natural flavour, it's like nature's candy! To pick the best tasting melon, the watermelon should feel heavy for its size. Look for the yellow creamy spot on one end, which means it's ripe.

Serves 4

Ready in
Prep time: 15 minutes

Ingredients
- 4 cups diced watermelon
- 1 cup thinly sliced baby cucumber, cut into half moons
- 1/2 cup thinly sliced red onions
- 1/4 cup chopped mint or basil
- 3 Tbsp toasted chopped cashews
- 1 oz crumbled goat cheese
- 2 Tbsp olive oil
- 1 Tbsp lemon juice
- Salt and pepper

Directions
1. On a serving plate, add watermelon and cucumber. Garnish with onions, mint, cashews and goat cheese.

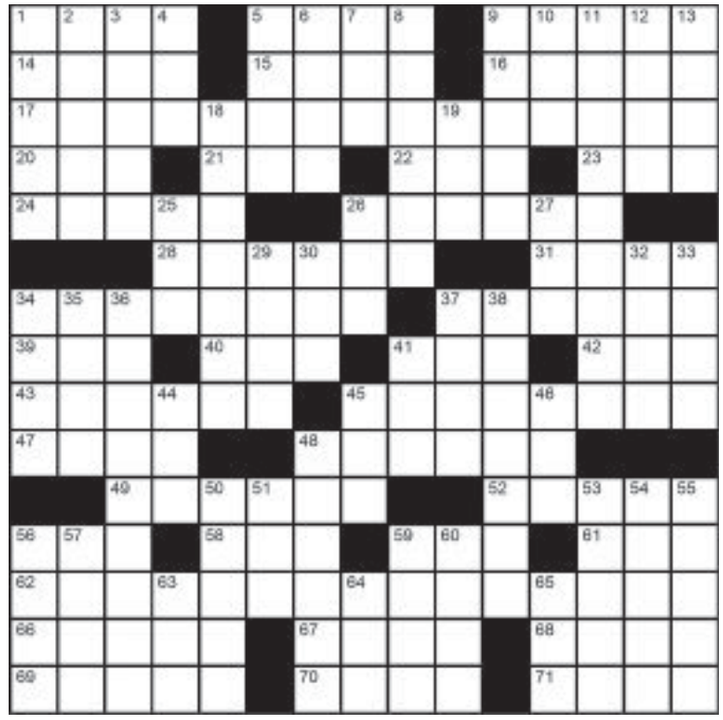
2. In a bowl, mix oil, juice and salt and pepper. Pour over salad and toss gently.

Nutrition per serving
- Calories 180
- Protein 3 g
- Carbohydrates 18 g
- Fibre 2 g
- Total fat 12 g
- Saturated fat 3 g
- Cholesterol 5 mg
- Sodium 85 mg

PHOTO: ROSE REISMAN

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Outperform
5. Serving-of-cereal holder
9. Essential
14. "Barbie Girl" band
15. Merle Haggard's "__ from Muskogee"
16. Spookily strange
17. Vancouver Island: Flowery attraction in Brentwood Bay, a National Historic Site of Canada: 2 wds.
20. Breathed-in stuff
21. Miley Cyrus song: "Party in the _-_-_"
22. '_' __ in Alberta
23. Richard Burton's wife, twice ...her initials-sharers
24. Fights
26. Greece's capital
28. Edmonton CFL player
31. Vintage muscle cars
34. Rock star's date unsurprisingly: 2 wds.
37. Quantity
39. Angelina Jolie title role
40. Irish actor Stephen
41. Monk's title
42. __ periculo (At my own risk, in Latin)
43. Music storage container: 2 letters + wd.
45. Jake Gyllenhaal's new boxer movie
47. Slangy sure
48. Hinder
49. Delicate
52. "No way."
56. Teeth doc's org.
58. Rocky hill
59. Stockholm's country [abbr.]
61. Yoko's surname
62. 1966 hit for partially-Canadian band The Lovin' Spoonful: 4 wds.
66. Manner of speaking
67. Have supper
68. There's none in a power failure, for short
69. Accomplishments
70. Simple
71. Weight allowance

DOWN
1. Rum cakes
2. Rig out
3. Kama __ (Record label the band at #62-Across was on)
4. Tic-Toe link
5. Feathery accessories
6. Pod vegetable
7. Stand-up's asset
8. Smoothly, in music terminology
9. Poetry
10. Roadside mil. hazard
11. Nature's stool in the forest: 2 wds.
12. "It __ Me Babe" by The Turtles
13. Fewer
18. Fancily uniformed cavalrymen of 15th-century Hungary
19. Ooh's pal
25. __ room (Basement)
26. Comic actress Ms. Poehler
27. Stop-_-__
29. Human hinge
30. Apple variety, __ Red
32. Vitamins brand, __ _ Day
33. Pack away
34. 'A' in CIA [abbr.]
35. Amusement park feature
36. Nut variety
37. Sort of lily
38. Daytime theatrical performance
41. Sainte-__ (Quebec City sector)
44. "Bingo!"
45. Pen
46. "__ Haw"
48. Footstep
50. 12 __ or Less (Express checkout sign)
51. __'easter
53. "There you have it!"
54. Enroll
55. Rolls-__ (Posh car)
56. "Like, that'll ever happen.": 2 wds.
57. Guy
59. RR depots
60. Curds and __
63. Clever comment
64. Ms. Vardalos
65. This: French

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
What are your limits? How far can you push yourself? These are the sort of questions you will be asking today and over the weekend. The answers depend entirely on you. Nothing is beyond you if you want it enough.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Resist the urge to criticize today, especially on the domestic front. It would be nice if everyone were as laidback as you but they're not, so make allowances.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
You may be free to come and go but you are reluctant to head off into the unknown. Your horizons have been limited for too long. Freedom means nothing unless you have courage.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Take care that, in your attempts to impress someone new, you don't spend more than you can afford. You need to get both your emotional and material priorities right.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
As your confidence returns so does your tendency to take risks and that could be dangerous. Your head may be in the clouds but keep your feet on the ground.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You will want to be by yourself over the next few days. Others may find that hard to accept but you must not allow them to persuade you to go places and do things that you would rather avoid.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You will go all out for glory today. There's a good chance you'll upset those who prefer the status quo. You are under no obligation to play down your ambitions just to please them.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Now that the sun is moving through the career area of your chart you will aim higher than before. You will face a lot of challenges but you will never doubt that you have what it takes.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
The sun in Leo will encourage you to think in new ways. It won't be long until you realize what you've been missing over the years. A slight shift in awareness will lead to major changes in your philosophy of life.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
The time has come to confront your demons. Don't be afraid to probe into areas of your mind that you would normally avoid. Don't be afraid to question your real motives. Don't be afraid to confront your true self.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
If you try to put one over on partners and colleagues they will see through your tactics and turn them against you. You must be open and honest.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
You have only yourself to blame for allowing people to take advantage of you. Look seriously at what you do for other people — then start doing less.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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